

Members:

Rep. Charlie Brown, Chair  
Rep. William Crawford  
Rep. Susan Crosby  
Rep. John Day  
Rep. Craig Fry  
Rep. Brian Hasler  
Rep. Win Moses  
Rep. Rolland Webber  
Rep. Vaneta Becker  
Rep. Robert Behning  
Rep. Timothy Brown  
Rep. Mary Kay Budak  
Rep. David Frizzell  
Rep. Gloria Goeglein  
Rep. Nick Gulling  
Sen. Steven Johnson, Vice-Chair  
Sen. Beverly Gard  
Sen. Teresa Lubbers  
Sen. Morris Mills  
Sen. Marvin Riegsecker  
Sen. Richard Worman  
Sen. Joseph Zakas  
Sen. Glenn Howard  
Sen. Earline Rogers  
Sen. Vi Simpson  
Sen. Mark Blade



## **HEALTH FINANCE COMMISSION**

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Authority: IC 2-5-23

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date:** November 10, 1998  
**Meeting Time:** 1:00 P.M.  
**Meeting Place:** State House, 200 W. Washington St.,  
Room 404  
**Meeting City:** Indianapolis, Indiana  
**Meeting Number:** 7

**Members Present:** Rep. Charlie Brown, Chairperson; Rep. William Crawford; Rep. Susan Crosby; Rep. Mary Kay Budak; Rep. Robert Behning; Rep. Gloria Goeglein; Sen. Teresa Lubbers; Sen. Marvin Riegsecker; Sen. Beverly Gard; Sen. Glenn Howard; Sen. Earline Rogers.

**Members Absent:** Rep. Win Moses; Rep. Brian Hasler; Rep. John Day; Rep. Craig Fry; Rep. Rolland Webber; Rep. Vaneta Becker; Rep. Timothy Brown; Rep. Nick Gulling; Rep. David Frizzell; Sen. Steven Johnson, Vice-Chairperson; Sen. Morris Mills; Sen. Richard Worman; Sen. Joseph Zakas; Sen. Vi Simpson; Sen. Mark Blade.

Rep. Charlie Brown called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. and explained that the affirmative votes of at least twelve members were required for the Commission to make recommendations on the final report. Rep. Brown stated that the Commission would proceed with the agenda, review the draft final report, and attempt to reach a consensus on the recommendations among the members present regardless of the absence of a quorum. He stated that Rep. Becker and Sen. Simpson were unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.

### **Estimated Cost of Mental Health Parity in State Employee Health Benefits**

Bill Johnson, Deputy Director, Indiana State Personnel Department, explained that a firm estimate of the cost of mental health parity in the state employee health benefit plans is unavailable at this time because parity has not yet been implemented. He

stated that estimated costs of parity range from 1.5% to 10%. Mr. Johnson said that negotiations are currently under way, and that requests for proposals for the next contract will be sent during the summer of 1999, after which a better estimate of the costs of parity will be available. Rep. Goeglein commented that a bill drafted for the Mental Health Commission that requires full mental health parity, including substance abuse, was estimated to cost approximately \$250,000. Rep. Crosby stated that an issue had arisen in another commission regarding mental health discrimination in state employee disability benefits. Mr. Johnson responded that the Personnel Department is researching this issue currently.

### **Other Business**

Rep. Brown informed those present that the final meeting of the Governor's Panel on the Children's Health Insurance Program will occur on Friday, November 13, 1998. Rep. Crawford stated that the ten recommendations of the Governor's Panel had been approved by the Panel, but that the Panel would discuss the narrative portions of its final report at this meeting. Katie Humphreys, Chairperson of the Governor's Panel, affirmed Rep. Crawford's statements. Rep. Brown discussed the differences between the Governor's Panel recommendations and the recommendations of the Health Finance Commission in the draft final report.

### **Discussion of the Draft Final Report to the Legislative Council<sup>1</sup>**

Rep. Brown described each of the issues assigned to the Commission by the Legislative Council and the findings and recommendations of the Commission on each issue. He explained that the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is the only issue on which the Commission is making recommendations. Rep. Brown stated that the draft final report contains recommendations identical to the Governor's Panel recommendations and additional recommendations including: (a) full mental health parity; (b) use of Community Health Centers as provider sites; (c) provisions for direct access and provider participation; and (d) reimbursement of nurse practitioners. Sen. Riegsecker expressed concern that including provisions regarding nurse practitioners may create problems in passage of a bill due to concerns about broadening the scope of practice of nurse practitioners. Rep. Brown stated that there are pros and cons of including provisions regarding nurse practitioners and dental hygienists. Rep. Crawford stated that he agrees that broadening the scope of practice may create controversy, but that he does not believe that the recommendations broaden the scope of practice of nurse practitioners. Rep. Crawford and Rep. Goeglein recommended that the nurse practitioner provisions be addressed in a separate bill. Rep. Brown requested clarification of an Indiana law which was said to have recently broadened the scope of practice of nurse practitioners. Tim Kennedy, Indiana Hospital and Health Association, and Katie Humphreys clarified that 1994 legislation gave prescriptive authority to nurse practitioners.

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<sup>1</sup>A copy of the draft final report to the Legislative Council is on file in the Legislative Information Center, Room 230 of the State House, Indianapolis, Indiana. The telephone number of the Legislative Information Center is (317) 232-9856 and the mailing address is 200 W. Washington St., Ste. 301, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789.

Following discussion, the Commission, by consensus of the eleven members present, agreed to remove the nurse practitioner provisions from the recommendations in the draft final report, and to otherwise accept the draft as presented.

Rep. Brown adjourned the meeting at 2:10 P.M.